Homesteads. The fact that the General, Assembly of this State are determined to either amend the present law providing homestcads, or pass a new act for this purpose, we think is evident from the fact that a bill has already passed the House of Commons, and another has passed two readings in the Senate, and stands first for consideration upon the reassembling of that body on the 22d inst. Railroads. We are satisfied that some action should be had in regard to this subject. Depressed as our people are, weighed down by debt, disheartened by the almost universal fail- citizens of the extreme Northern portion of opposition to the Radicals, should secure ure of crops, almost hopeless in regard to the State to unite the two sections and join votes enough at the North, with the votes their political future, they need every en- them in business relations, which must of the Southern States, to insure his eleccouragement and aid consistent with the Constitutions of the State and United States efit to the entire State. Particularly do we which may threaten the existence of the that can possibly be given. Relieved from all participation in the General Govern-

their State for protection. We were in hopes that Congress would furnish some relief to the Southern people by the passage of a judicious and general Bankrupt Law. During the last session several bills of the kind were under discussion, and one or more of them actually passed the House of Representatives, but were rejected in the Senate. We know not that the fact that the South would probably reap some benefit from such a law mand trust such was not the case. But we confind to Northern votes. Beyond question, a wise law to enable the bankrupt, up- tic of our people is not lost. on an honest surrender of all the property We hope our people will no longer try. That it should be compelled to susin his possession, to be relieved from the

der the Constitution. Mr. Berry, the Senator from Orange, an from Bladen, has attracted the most attention and received the most successful consideration.

Mr. Berry's bill provides that any citizen of lands may file his petition in the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of the county where the land lies, praying for the allotment of a homestead therefrom, not exceeding one hundred acres, if in the county, or one-half acre if in the city or incorporated town, which allotment may include a single dwelling and the necessary outhouses. After being laid off and registered, the homestead shall not be subject to execution for any debts contracted, or cause of action, or other liability, save taxes accruing after the same is registered, but i shall not be exempt from execution for any debt or cause of action arising upon any Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford penal bond or covenant previously execu- Railread, and the judicious extension of ted, although the same may accrue after the registration. If any person be taken under a capias ad satisfaciewlam, sued out upon any judgment founded on cause of action accrued subsequent to the registration aforesaid, it shall not be required of him to put the allotted homestead in his schedule of effects, or to surrender the same, but that this exemption shall not apply to process or judgments founded or penal bonds or covenant previously executed. That no male person, in lawful wedlock, shall have power to sell or dispose of a homestead, without the concurrence of his wife duly evidenced. The bill further provides that where a homestead is laid off from an estate descendable to heirs, and the wife survive, she shall be entitled to the homestead for dower, if she shall so elect, to be duly allotted, but if she marry again, there being a child or children of the issue of her first husband, she shall

The bill, the provisions of which we give above, will most probably pass the Senate with a limitation in the value as well as boundaries of the homestead, say to three thousand dollars. The bill of Mr. Rienardson, which has passed the House, and which we published in full, it will be recollected, confines the homestead to one hundred acres and one thousand dollars in value, allowing the execution debtor ninety days to pay off all excess over the value of one thousand dollars, when the dwelling house and out buildings, with land sufficient for the convenient are thereof, shall exceed that valuation.

take one-third only, including the dwell-

These, then, are the measures before the Legislature to provide homesteads for the citizens of the State. That the necessities of the people demand some such legislation is well known, and it certainly is the policy of the State, by protecting the homesteads of its citizens, to a certain amount, from execution, not only to enable all to own his residence, but encourage them to put such improvements upon them as will attach the owner and his family to their homes, and make them ornaments to the country. The tide of immigration which is now flowing from the borders of our State to the South and West, may thus not only be checked, but entirely turned, and under a wholesome protection from the law, the homes of our people may soon indicate a happy and prosperous population.

American Farmer. and scientific. Price \$2 per year. Our Rail Road Connections.

ing held at Mt. Airy, in Surry county, on madness. the 1st day of this month to consider the We have long thought that the presidenform business relations with their own and did acknowledgment that they were not en-

ment, and expecting evil rather than good The most casual glance at the map will ex- as to the status of the Southern States, more from its legislation, they naturally turn to hibit the importance of the movement to potent than the decisions of the Courts, Wytheville on the Virginia and Tennessee fied that whatever their political necessities Railroad, would open to Fayetteville and demand will be done. Wilmington a region of country unexcelled fluenced the legislation on the subject, in agricultural and mineral wealth, and would enter into business relations with this most valuable paper, that it has been do know that in former years the support them almost without a rival, certainly withfor such measures was almost universally out successful competition, if the spirit of want of patronage. We have regarded The enterprise and industry so long characteris- Watchman as one of the best, if not the very

neglect the great interests at stake in pend while fortunes are being made by the thraldom of debt, would be conducive of our railroad connections with the publication of such literary trash which great good throughout the country. But West. We believe, with the proper sysas Congress seems unwilling to pass such a tem of railroad connections with the in- weeklies of New York city, is but another law, it is incumbent upon the State Legis- terior, now within the power of our citi- evidence of the degeneracy of the times. lature to do so, as far as they are able un-Wilmington is assured. But time must not Deems, the able editor and eloquent divine The subject of a Homestead Law has oc- be lost, for the chance may slip out of our is much impaired by the arduous labors of the other by Mr. Richardson, Commoner know, there has been no movement on the part of our citizens, even to indicate a wish as to the course and terminus of the extension of the Fayetteville and Western Railroad. But other localities are interesting

of this State, who is possessed of a freehold themselves and right earnestly, too; and we cannot expect the road to take the direction most advantageous to us, perchance because the same course and terminus will be most advantageous to Fayetteville, if we sit in apparent uninterested silence, while other points are stretching out their hand of to the Senate at noen on Monday. A hasty invitation, and probably of assistance.

The people of the State and of the entire South, are exercising themselves in regard to our Federal relations, and are much interested as to who shall be their representatives in Congress and when they will be permitted to take their seats, but we are fully convinced that the completion of the the Western Railroad, are much more important to us at this time than "getting into the Union." The first are matters bearing directly upon our material prosperity, and are within our power of accomplishing; be latter is one over which we have no conrol, and is attended with such humiliations and concessions that it may be robbed of its selves about the one, and undertake in earnest the success of the others.

Political Driftings.

Political matters seem to be rapidly reaching a point beyond which they cannot proceed without startling and important changes in the present position of afairs. The impeachment of the President, which we supposed was contemplated only upon by a very large majority of the caucus of ing their welfare as a community. The thich has already passed the Senate, bears The bill will undoubtedly pass, and the obthat of abusing the pardoning power.

Convention may nominate for President, qualified voters. there would be no threats against the Exhave been admitted into the Union. It is ton, and after the appointment of Provi-State Conventions vied with those of the Messrs. Worthington & Lewis, of Baltimore, things continued until the party leaders for the January number of this old and saw political power about to depart, and ests and condition. sterling Magazine. The American Farmer then began the war upon the President Horticultural Journal. Among the leading during the revolution and which had been articles for January, are Farmer's Clubs, most happily buried at its close, were re-Liebig's Experiments on Potatoes examined; the principal reason of his nomination, was

Among the items of "State News" to- has only to read the proceedings of Con-

question of their Railroad connections .- | tial election of 1868 would be the culmina-The enterprising and public-spirited people ting point to the present political difficulof that section are determined to have an ties. The Southern States, not only to asand although now dependent upon the Vir- under the Constitution, but as a plain matginia roads, and doing almost their entire ter of duty, will choose presidential elecbusiness through that State, they desire to tors. To neglect to do so would be a canseek connection with the North Carolina titled to this or any other privilege as States. These electors will ballot for Pre-We desire to call the attention of our own | sident and | Vice-President, and | the result people and those of Fayetteville to this in- will be duly transmitted. If Generals Grant auguration of an effort upon the part of the or Sherman or any other candidate run in prove mutually beneficial, and of vast ben- tion, there must certainly be a conflict do so as they invite us to interest ourselves government itself. Certainly, there then miles the nearest port for all that section of thought advisable, at that time, to have in country, and with the Westerr Railroad ex- the Presidential Chair some convenient tended from Egypt to High Point on the tool of party, and if so, the President must North Carolina Railroad, and with a road be impeached and deposed. The abuse of Airy, along the banks, and through the fer- upon as the most convenient and plausible tile valley of the Yadkin, ar thence to grounds to accomplish this. We are satis-

The New York Watchman.

We regret to learn from the last issue of suspended, at least for the present, from best, family papers published in this councomprise most of the literary and pictorial

We regret to learn that the health of Dr. cupied much of the time of the General grasp, and too late to take advantage of our the sanctum. We trust his health may Assembly, and two bills, one introduced by situation, we may yet realize the great op-soon be restored and The Watchman, over which he has presided with so much ability and judgment, may appear again invigorated and upon a strong foundation.

The Veto Message,

Through the agency of the United STATES ALD EUROPEAN NEWS ASSOCIATION. we have been placed in possession, by telegraph, of the Veto Message of President Johnson, in advance of its delivery to Congress. We give up most of our space to this paper to-day, it having been sent in perusal only, which we have been able to give this message, warrants us in pronouncing it the ablest State paper which has thus far emanated from President Johnson. who has already distinguished his adminis tration by the ability of his former mes sages. Its logic is unanswerable, and the unconstitutionality of the bill in question is clearly demonstrated, while the dangers of the complete overthrow of all constitutional government is pointed out, as following in the wake of such legislation. We hope all our readers will give it an attentive consideration.

PRESIDENT'S VETO. MESSAGE.

To the Senate of the United States : I have received and considered a bill entitled "An act to regulate the elective franimportance, possibly of its benefits. We chise in the District of Columbia," passed Senate, in which House it originated.

lican party, seems to be fully determined cities upon a subject so immediately affectthe party, and we may expect to see all question was submitted to the people at heir legislation tending in this direction. cember, 1865, when the qualified voters of selves opposed to the contemplated legislation. In Washington, in a vote of 6,556his complexion. If the more intelligent the largest, with but two exceptions, ever nembers of the party were not fully satis- polled in that city-only thirty-five ballots lied, that without the clause in question, the were cast for negro suffrage; while in

orginal and well-selected matter, practical which witnessed the end of hostilities.— well in the enactment of local laws for the the Congress of the nation. Whither it will lead and when it will end, seat of government, as in legislation com- As a general rule, sound policy requires citizen of the Republic. Where a people which will render them obligatory on the Washington, January 5, 1867.

no human forethought can divine. One mon to the entire Union. Were it to be that the Legislature should yield to the -the source of all political power-speak, other branches. They have accordingly in admitted that the right "to exercise exclusive wishes of a people, when not inconsistent by their suffrages, through the instrumentances, decided rights which sive legislation in all cases whatsoever," with the Constitution and the laws. The tality of the ballot-box, it must be carefuls should have been left to juidiciary controlled. day, we publish the proceedings of a meet- gress to ascertain its bitterness, nay, its conferred upon Congress unlimited power measures suited to one community might ly guarded against the control of those who sy; and the direction of the Executive, duwithin the District of Columbia, titles of not be well adapted to the condition of an- are corrupt in principle and enemies of ring the whole time of their session, is benobility might he granted within its boun- other; and the persons best qualified to de- free institutions, for it can only become to coming habitual and familian. freedom of speech or of the press; or the stance, male persons are allowed to vote Controlled, through fraud and usurpation, "The truth is, that the legislative power is the expeditions and reliable outlet to market, sert their existence as States and their rights | right of the people peaceably to assemble | without regard to color, provided they posfree Republic, and, as a place of permanent sons of color; and of the males over twenty the Constitution inherited from our fathers. ment of these representatives themselves? residence, it would be avoided by all who years of age, there were 339,086 white to 2,602 It follows, therefore, that in admitting to they be as jealous of the exercise of the power by emoluments of official position.

the Federal Constitution, the relation of of the District has largely increased, and it and durability. Congress to its inhabitants is analogous to is estimated that at the present time there In returning this bill to the Senate, I departments. The bounds of the and extend to us the hand of fellowship. will be a practical solution of the question for whom they legislate. The spirit of our those who sought within its limits a shelter been my earnest wish to co-operate with tice. It cannot punish without law. It this section. Fayetteville is by very many nay, than the acts of Congress. It may be bearing upon a people, their will should ment was acquired when, by conferring war. Harmony between the co-ordinate leading from the latter place through Mt. the pardoning power may be determined in the Union, in opposition to the them. Possessing these advantages but a tion between them. The differences of vast interests It disposes of all its troopers. making power.

government under the exclusive legislation of Congress, was to secure the entire indeor infringement of its authority, the high one year, to come into the District in such quisite share of independence, and that functions for which it was created by the people. For this important purpose it was reded to the United States by Maryland and Virginia, and it certainly never could ave been contemplated, as one of the obects to be attained by placing it under the exclusive jurisdiction of Congress, that i would afford to propagandists or political heir principles and theories. While, innot therefore allowed a voice in the electo- year, as to those persons of color, who, ment in which all legislative powers ar ral college, or representation in the councils of the nation, they are, nevertheless, l American citizens, entitled as such to every guarantee of the Constitution, to every as useful and responsible members of the invasion of the others, remarks that "the benefit of the laws, and to every right community. Imposed upon an unwilling Legislative Department is everywhere ex which pertains to citizens of our common people, placed, by the constitution, under tended the sphere of its activity, and draw country. In all matters, then, affecting the exclusive legislation of Congress, it ing all power into its impetuous vortex. their domestic affairs, the spirit of our democratic form of government demands that | power, and as an indication by the country | never to have recollected the danger from their wishes should be consulted and res- of the purpose of Congress to compel the ac- legislative usureations, which, by assempected, and they taught to feel that, al- ceptance of negro suffrage by the States. It bling all power in the same hands, must though not permitted practicelly to participate in national concerns, they are nevertrust our citizens will cease to trouble them- by the Senate on the 13th of December, theless under a paternal Government, reand by the House of Representatives on gardful of their rights, mindful of their the succeeding day. It was presented for wants, and solicitous for their prosperity. my approval on the 26th ultimo-six days It was evidently contemplated that all local after the adjournment of Congress-and is questions would be left to their decision, at now returned with my objections to the least to an extent that would not be incompatible with the object for which Congress Measures having been introduced, at the was granted exclusive legislation over the tions between them, and thus, when that sufficiently numerous to feel all the pass elective franchise to persons of color in the sumed, by Mr. Madison, that its inhabi- this new element into the political power of the objects of its passions by means which District of Columbia, steps were taken by tants would be allowed "a municipal leg- the country. the corporate authorities of Washington islature, for local purposes, derived from and Georgetown to ascertain and make their own suffrages." When, for the first by the more radical members of the Republiknown the opinion of the people of the two time, Congress, in the year 1800, assembled lumbia is necessary to enable persons of at Washington, President Adams, in his color to protect either their interest or their speech at its opening, reminded the two Houses that it was for them to consider whether the local powers over the District of Columbia, vested by the Constitution in In fact, the bill for the repeal of the pardon Washington and Georgetown, with great the Congress of the United States, should ection of the treason and confiscation act, unanimity of sentiment, expressed them- be immediately exercised, and he asked S.; for they possess the "full and equal them to "consider it as the capital of a great nation, advancing with unexampled rapidity in arts, in commerce, in wealth, and joyed by white citizens," and are made in population, and possessing within itself those resources which, if not thrown away power which the President already pos- Georgetown, in an aggregate of 813 votes— or lamentably misdirected, would secure to statute, ordinance, regulation, or custom to a number considerably in excess of the it a long course of prosperity and self-gov- the contrary notwithstanding." Nor, as sessed by the Constitution is full and am- average vote at the four preceding annual ernment." Three years had not clapsed has been assumed, are their suffrages neele, the able speech of Mr. Johnston, of elections—but one was given in favor of when Congress was called upon to deter- cessary to aid a loyal sentiment here : for MARYLAND, must have convinced them. the proposed extension of the elective fran- mine the propriety of retroceding to Mary- local governments already exist of undoubt- Department alone has access to the pockets chise. As these elections seem to have been land and Virginia the jurisdiction of the ed fealty to the first to testify their devo- of the people, and has in some constitution conducted with entire fairness, the result territory which they had respectively re- tion to the Union, and which during the full difference, and in all a prevailing influ ject seems merely to add another count in must be accepted as a truthful expression linquished to the Government of the United struggle furnished their full quotas of men ence over the pecuniary rewards of those their iniquitous bill against the President; of the opinion of the people of the District States. It was urged, on the one hand, to the military service of the country. upon the question which evoked it. Pos- that exclusive jurisdiction was not necessary | The exercise of the elective franchise is dence is thus created in the latter which The great object of the bitter warfare sessing, as an organized community, the property of the highest attribute of an American citical sessing as an organized community, the property of the highest attribute of an American citical sessing as an organized community, the property of the highest attribute of an American citical sessing as an organized community, the property of the highest attribute of an American citical sessing as an organized community, the property of the highest attribute of an American citical sessing as an organized community, the property of the highest attribute of an American citical sessing as an organized community, the property of the highest attribute of an American citical sessing as an organized community of the highest attribute of an American citical sessing as an organized community of the highest attribute of an American citical sessing of the highest attribute of the highe same popular right as the inhabitants of a prived the inhabitants of the District of zen, and, when guided by virtue, intel.i- of the former." "We have seen that the upon the South turns upon the ensuing State or Territory, to make known their their political rights; that much of the gence, patriotism, and a proper apprecia-

presidential contest. If the Radicals were will upon matters which affect their social time of Congress was consumed in legisla- tion of our institutions, constitutes the satisfied that they could command the re- and political condition, they could have se- tion pertaining to it; that its government true basis of a democratic form of govern- expense of the other departments. quisite vote at the North to elect Judge lected no more appropriate mode of memorializing Congress upon the subject of this petent to legislate for the District, because lodged in the body of the people. Its in- Constitution of Virginia, objected that by or so much as demanded by the people of Chase, Speaker Colfax, or whoever their bill than through the suffrages of their the members were strangers to its local con- fluence for good necessarily depends upon its provisions all the powers of government. the several States for themselves, the cerns; and that it was an example of a the elevated character and patriotism of legislative, executive, and judicial-resulties has such an inneval. Entirely disregarding the wishes of the government without representation—an ex- the elector, for if exercised by persons who ted to the legislative body, holding that been allowed as giving the ballot to the ecutive, and the South would long since people of the District of Columbia, Conecutive, and the South would long since people of the District of Columbia, Conperiment dangerous to the liberties of the liber gress has deemed it right and expedient to States. On the other hand, it was held, are indifferent as to its results, it will only is precisely the definition of despotic gov- cation than a residence of one year, and pass the measure now submitted for my among other reasons, and successfully, that serve as a means of placing power in the ernment. It will be no alleviation that most of there the denial of the ballot t well known that for several months after signature. It, therefore, becomes the duty the Constitution, the acts of cession of Vir- hands of the unprincipled and ambitious, these powers will be exercised by a piuralithe surrender of Generals Lee and Johns- of the Executive, standing between the leg- ginia and Maryland, and the act of Con- and must eventuate in the complete des- ty of hands, and not by a single one. One law placed beyond the domain of ordinary islation of the one and the will of the other, gress accepting the grant, all contemplated struction of that liberty of which it hundred and seventy-three despots would legislation. In most of those States fairly expressed, to determine whether he the exercise of exclusive legislation by should be the most powerful conserva- surely be as oppressive as one. "As little evil of such suffrage would be partial; leading the surely be as oppressive as one." sional Governors for the Southern States, should approve the bill, and thus aid in Congress, and that its usefulness, if not its tor. Great danger is therefore to be ap- will it avail us that they are chosen by our small as it would be, it is generated by and the policy of the Federal Administra- placing upon the statute-books of the nation necessity, was inferred from an untimely extension of selves. An elective despotism was not the stitutional barriers. Here the impossity tion, in regard to reconstruction, was clear- a law against which the people to whom it lience which was felt for want of it, by the lience which was felt for want of it. ly announced and understood, Republican is to apply have solemnly and with such ly announced and understood, Republican is to apply have solemnly and with such large massion only be founded on free principals of the confederation; that the large massion is to apply have solemnly and with such large massion only be founded on free principals. The confederation is to apply have solemnly and with such large massion only be founded on free principals. unanimity protested, or whether he should return it with his objections, in the hope return it with his objections are return it with his objection are return it with his Democrats in supporting this policy and that, upon reconsideration, Congress, act- not complained and did not desire a retro- pected correctly to comprehend the duties among several bodies of magistracy as that After full deliberation upon this means endorsing President Johnson as the worthy ing as the representatives of the inhabitants cession; that the evil might be remedied and responsibilities which pertain to suf-We are indebted to the publishers, successor of Mr. Lincoln. This state of of the seat of government, will permit them by giving them a representation in Configuration, as to grees when the District should become sufto regulate a purely local question, as to gress when the District should become sufthem may seem best suited to their inter- ficiently populous, and in the meantime a ry that had existed for generations; to-day that Convention which passed the ordinance I yield to no one in attachment to local legislature; that if the inhabitants they are freemen, and are assumed by law of government laid its foundation on this rule of general suffrage which distings The District of Columbia was ceded to had not political rights, they had great po- to be citizens. It cannot be presumed, basis, that the Legislative, Executive, and es our policy as a nation. But there stands justly high as an Agricultural and and the South. Prejudices, which existed the United States by Maryland and Virginian for the United States by Maryland and Virginian ginia, in order that it might become the pense of legislating for the District would that, as a class, they are as well informed and distinct, so that no person should ex- makes the ballot a privilege and a permanent seat of government of the Uni- not be great, but would diminish, and as to the nature of our Government, as the ercise the powers of more than one of them and which requires of some classes at the ted States. Accepted by Congress, it at might in a great measure be avoided by a intelligent foreigner who makes our land at the same time. But no barrier was pro- suitable for probation and proposition and their value and how they should be constinewed, and even the fact of Mr. Johnson once became subject to the "exclusive leglocal legislature; and that Congress could be constinewed, and even the fact of Mr. Johnson once became subject to the "exclusive leglocal legislature; and that Congress could be tween these several powers. The To give it indiscriminately to a first lead to the several powers. tuted; Labour, its motives; Old Virginia; being a Southern man, which had been islation to the latter, neither a residence of five years, and Judiciary and Executive members were wholly unprepared, by previous had been to the latter, neither a residence of five years, and Judiciary and Executive members were wholly unprepared, by previous had been to the latter, neither a residence of five years, and Judiciary and Executive members were wholly unprepared, by previous had been to the latter, neither a residence of five years, and Judiciary and Executive members were wholly unprepared, by previous had been to the latter, neither a residence of five years, and Judiciary and Executive members were wholly unprepared, by previous had been to the latter, neither a residence of five years, and Judiciary and Executive members were wholly unprepared, by previous had been to the latter, neither a residence of five years, and Judiciary and Executive members were wholly unprepared, by previous had been to the latter, neither a residence of five years, and the Federal Constitution. It should be consent. Continuing to live substantially the knowledge of our institutions which it left dependent on the Legislative for their opportunities, to perform the trust which borne in mind, however, that in exercising under the laws that existed at the time gives, nor attachment to the principles of subsistence in office, and some of them for it demands, is to degrade it, and finally Study of Agricultural Facts, illustrated by used to his injury. These efforts have borne its functions as the law-making power of of the cession, and such changes only havthe practice of a Georgia planter, who buys, their legitimate fruits, and to-day more ill- the District of Columbia, the authority of ing been made as were suggested by them upon which he can be admitted to citizen- Legislature assumes executive and judiciary sumed that no political truth is better yearly, ten thousand dollars worth of com- feeling exists between the two sections of limit but the Congress is bound to chear the property of the District have not ship. He must prove, in addition, a good powers, no opposition is likely to be made, tablished than that such indiscriminate and proves in addition, a good powers, no opposition is likely to be made, tablished than that such indiscriminate and proves in addition, a good powers, no opposition is likely to be made, tablished than that such indiscriminate and proves in addition, a good powers, no opposition is likely to be made, tablished than that such indiscriminate and proves in addition, a good powers, no opposition is likely to be made, tablished than that such indiscriminate and proves in addition, a good powers, no opposition is likely to be made, tablished than that such indiscriminate and proves in addition, a good powers, no opposition is likely to be made, tablished than that such indiscriminate and proves in addition, a good powers, no opposition is likely to be made, tablished than that such indiscriminate and proves in addition, a good powers, no opposition is likely to be made, tablished than that such indiscriminate and proves in addition, a good powers, no opposition is likely to be made, tablished than that such indiscriminate and proves in addition, a good powers, no opposition is likely to be made, tablished than that such and the proves in addition and the proves in addition

rights. They stand here precisely as they

stand in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Indiana.

the free exercise thereof; or abridging the proposed law. In Massachusetts, for in- kept free from demoralizing influences - ject, and says: and to petition the Government for a reduced by the sess a certain degree of intelligence. In a must inevitably follow. In the hands of watch with jealousy every enerosehment of the expectation of the people will be patriotic and worthy, our Government of the patriotic and worthy, our Government of the expectation of the people will be patriotic and worthy, our Government of the expectation of the people will be patriotic and worthy, our Government of the patriotic and worthy, our Government of the patriotic and worthy are continuously follows. thus reign at the seat of government of a were, by the census of 1860, only 9,602 per- will be preserved upon the principles of authority. But who shall watch the encropelprefer the blessings of liberty to the mere colored. By the same official enumeration, the ballot-box a new class of voters not sons which may be assigned for the engineering in there were in the District of Columbia 60,764 qualified for the exercise of the elective finence of the legislative department. It should also be remembered that in legislating for the District of Columbia, under race. Since then, however, the population ernment, instead of adding to its strength sive, and less capable of being brought within

that of a Legislature to the people of a are nearly a hundred thousand whites to deeply regret that there should be any con- reaches few objects, and those are known. State, under their own local Constitution. thirty thousandnegroes. The cause of the flict of opinion between the Legislative and not transcend them webout It does not, therefore, seem to be asking augmented numbers of the latter class needs Executive Departments of the Government con's t with the other departments. too much that, in matters pertaining to the no explanation. Contigious to Maryland in regard to measures that vitally affect the cise. The same remarks stolk District, Congress should have a like re- and Vinginia, the District, during the war, prosperity and peace of the country. Sin- greater force to the judi spect for the will and interests of its inbab- became a place of refuge for those who es- cerely desiring to reconcile the States with tants as is entertained by a State Legisla- caped from servitude, and it is yet the abi- one another, and the whole people to the | one another, and the whole people to the ture for the wishes and prosperity of those ding place of a considerable proportion of Government of the United States, it has the mere administration of trivate and total instantant of the United States, it has the mere administration of trivate and total instantant of the United States, it has the mere administration of trivate and total instantant of the United States, it has been supported by the mere administration of trivate and total instantant of the United States, it has been supported by the mere administration of the United States, it has been supported by the mere administration of the United States, it has been supported by the mere administration of the United States, it has been supported by the mere administration of the United States, it has been supported by the mere administration of the United States, it has been supported by the mere administration of the United States, it has been supported by the mere administration of the United States and the United States and the United States are the united S Constitution and the genius of our Govern- from bondage. Until then held in slavery, Congress in all measures having for their create confroversics to a tapper ment require that, in regard to any law and denied all opportunities for mental cul- object a proper and complete adjustment of which is to affect and have a permanent ture, their first knowledge of the Govern- the questions resulting from our late civil It must do every hing for others. It must also exert at least a reasonable influence upon upon them freedom, it became the benefac- branches of the Government, always nethose who are acting in the capacity of their tor of their race; the test of their capabilic cessary for the public welfare, was never legislators. Would, for instance, the Leg- ty for improvement began, when, for the more demanded than at the present time, limited. It is forever varying its means and it islature of the State of New York, or of first time, the career of free industry and and it will therefore be my constant aim to ends. It governs the institutions, and laws are Pennsylvania, or of Indiana, or of any State | the avenues to intelligence were opened to promote, as far as possible, concert of ac-public policy of the country. It regulates all its expressed will of a large majority of limited time—the greater number perhaps opinion that have already occurred have of its ordicary powers. It levies all taxes; it do the people whom they were chosen to rep- having entered the district of Columbia da | rendered me only the more cautious, lest | rects and approprietes all supplies; it gives the resent, arbitrarily force upon them, as vo- ring the latter years of the war or since its the Executive should encroach upon any ters, all persons of the African or negro termination-we may well panse to inquire of the prerogatives of Congress, or, by exrace, and make them eligible for office, whether, after so brief a probation, they are ceeding, in any manner, the constitutional without any other qualification than a cer- as a class capable of an intelligent exercise of limit of his duties, destroy the equilibrium tain term of residence within the State? - the right of suffrage, and qualified to dis- which should exist between the several co In neither of the States named would the charge the duties of official position. The ordinate Departments, and which is so es colored population, when acting together, people who are daily witnesses of their sential to the harmious working of the Govbe able to produce any great social or po- ode of living, and who have become fa- ernment. I know it has been urged that litical result. Yet, in New York, before he miliar with their habits of thought, have the Executive Department is more likely to can vote, the man of color must fulfil con- expressed the conviction that they are not enlarge the sphere of its action than either ditions that are not required of the white | yet competent to serve as electors, and thus of the other two branches of the Governcitizen; in Pennsylvania the elective fran- become eligible for office in the local gov- ment, and especially in the exercise of the chise is restricted to white freemen; while ernments under which they live. Clothed veto power conferred upon it by the Conin Indiana negroes and mulattoes are ex- with the elective franchise, their numbers, stitution. It should be remembered, how pressly excluded from the right of suffrage. already largely in excess of the demand for ever, that this power is wholly negative and t hardly seems consistent with the princi- labor, would be soon increased by an influx conservative in its character, and was in ples of right and justice that representa- from the adjoining States. Drawn from tended to operate as a check upon uncon tives of States where suffrage is either de- fields where employment is abundant, they stitutional hasty, and improvident legisla nied the colored man, or granted to him on would in vain seek it here, and so add to tion, and as a means of protection agains qualifications requiring intelligence or pro- the embarrassments already experienced invasions of the just powers of the Execu perty, should compel the people of the Dis- from the large class of idle persons congretive and Judicial Departments. It is retrict of Columbia to try an experiment gated in the District. Hardly yet capable marked by Chancellor Kent that "to enwhich their own constituents have thus far of forming correct judgments upon the im- act laws is a transcendent power; and, it hown an unwillingness to test for them- portant questions that often make the is- the body that possesses it be a full and shown an unwillingness to test for themportant questions that often make the isselves. Nor does it accord with our repubsues of a political contest, they could readiequal representation of the people there is both of the others. But at the name time the relican ideas that the principle of self-govern- by be made subservient to the purposes of danger of its pressing with destructive ment should lose its force when applied to designing persons. While in Massachu- weight upon all the other parts of the ma the residents of the District, merely be-setts, under the census of 1860, the proper-chinery of government. It has, therefore sause their legislators are not, like those of tion of white to colored males over twenty been thought necessary, by the most skill the States, responsible, through the ballot, years of age was one hundred and thirty to ful and most experienced artists in the to the people for whom they are the law- one, here the black race constitutes nearly science of civil polity that strong barrier one-third of the entire population, whilst the should be erected for the protection and The great object of placing the seat of same class surrounds the District on all security of the other necessary power sides, ready to change their residence at a of the Government. Nothing has been moment's notice, and with all the facility deemed more fit and expedient for of a nomedic people, in order to enjoy here, the purpose than the provision the after a short residence, a privilege they find the head of the Executive Department nowhere else. It is within their power, in should be so constituted as to secure a r numbers as to have the supreme control of should have a negative apon the passing the white race, and to govern them by their laws; and that judiciary power, resting a own officers, and by the exercise of all the a still more permanent basis, should ha municipal authority-among the rest, of the | the right of determining upon the validit power of taxation over property in which of laws by the standard of the Constitu

where they have enjoyed the benefits of a The necessity of some such check in the thorough educational system, a qualification | hands of the Executive is shown by refer parties a place for an experimental test of of intelligence is required, while here suf- ence to the most eminent writers upon our frage is extended to all, without discrimi- system of government, who seem to con nation, as well to the most incapable, who cur in the opinion that encroachments are ment are not citizens of any State, and are can prove a residence in the District of one most to be apprehended from the depart comparatively few in number, are perma- vested by the Constitution. Mr. Madison nent inhabitants, and having given evidence in referring to the difficulty of providing of merit and qualification, are recognized some practical security for each against the would be viewed as an arbitrary exercise of | "The founders of our republics would engender a feeling of opposition and lead to the same tyranny as is threatened hatred between the two races, which, be- by Executive usurpations." coming deep-rooted and ineradicable, would sentative Republic, where the Executive prevent them from living together in a state | magistracy is carefully limited, both in the of mutual friendliness. Carefully avoiding extent and the duration of its power, and every measure that might tend to produce where the legislative power is exercised by such a result, and following the clear and an assembly which is inspired by a suppos well ascertained popular will, we should as influence over the people, with an intrevisidiously endeavor to promote kindly rela- confidence in its own strength; which popular will leads the way, prepare for the sions which actuate a multitude, yet not s gradual and harmonious introduction of numerous as to be incapable of pursuing It cannot be urged that the proposed extension of suffrage in the District of Co-The Legislative Department derives a s

Here, as elsewhere, in all that pertains to benefit of all laws and proceedings for the security of person and property as is en-'subject to like punishment, pains and penalties, and to none other, any law, who fill the other departments, a depen

an aggrandizement of the legislative, at the voice, that it is not for their good. yearly, ten thousand dollars worth of commercial fertilizers; with a great deal of the country, than in the spring of 1865 the letter and spirit of the Constitution, as generally been willingly conceded by to the obligations which he assumes as a ings into the form of an act of assembly,

daries; laws might be made "respecting an termine such question are those whose in- our political and social system a safe conestablishment of religion, or prohibiting terests are to be directly affected by any ductor of healthy popular sentiment when on the Constitution, reviews the same sub-

> f times and circumstances. It has the pride, as r: and it finds its ambition stimulated and his ose of men who look with apprehension men should have its own independence scented be-In addition to what has been said ! hese distinguished writers, it may also be wered that the dominant party in each House may, by the expulsion of a suffic ser run ber of members, or by the exclusion rops representation of a requisite mustles of States, reduce the minority to has flan

> ithstanding, which would render impoie Congress of the United States-thin, in e language of the author of the Declara on of Independence, would be "precisely the Republic, rather than to rely simply e cannot too often recur to them, caneally at a conjuncture I ke the present Pheir application to our actual condition is iving voice, to be listened to with more; ention than at any previous period in a istory. We have been and are yet in the ridst of popular commotion. The past s the only safe guide when radical charain our institutions are to be made. The alone should make us pause; but it is t

me-third. Congress, by there means.

night be enabled to pass a law, the object

ions of the President to the convery not

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